

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, comprising:

C<sub>1</sub> a plurality of discrete cords, constructed from a plurality of individual wires, wherein all wires are less than .25 millimeters in diameter, said plurality of cords being arranged side-by-side;

a coating layer substantially enveloping said plurality of cords and having an aspect ratio defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

2. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of wires are in a twisted pattern creating strands of several wires and a center wire.

<sup>4</sup><sub>3</sub> 3. (original) A tension member according to claim 2 wherein said strand pattern is defined as said several wires twisted around said one center wire.

[ 4. (canceled).

<sup>4</sup><sub>5</sub> 5. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>4</sup><sub>4</sub> wherein said plurality of cords are each in a pattern comprising several strands around a center strand.

<sup>4</sup><sub>6</sub> 6. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>4</sup><sub>5</sub> wherein said cord pattern is several outer strands twisted around said center strand.

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7. (original) A tension member according to claim 6 wherein said center strand comprises said several wires twisted around said one center wire in a first direction and said outer strands each comprise said several wires twisted around said one center wire in a second direction and said outer strands are twisted around said center strand in said first direction.

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8. (original) A tension member according to claim 6 wherein each said center wire of each strand is larger than all wires twisted therearound.

C, 13  
9. (previously presented) A tension member according to claim 8 wherein said center wire of said center strand is larger than said center wire of each said outer strands.

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10. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said wires diameters are less than .20 millimeters.

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11. (original) A tension member according to claim 6 wherein said center wire in said center strand is of a larger diameter than all other wires in each cord of said plurality of cords.

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12. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said cords are arranged in spaced relation to each other.

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13. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein the aspect ratio is greater than or equal to two.

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14. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said coating layer defines a single engagement surface for the plurality of individual cords.

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15. (original) A tension member according to claim 14 wherein said coating layer extends widthwise such that the engagement surface extends about the plurality of individual cords.

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16. (original) A tension member according to claim 1, wherein the sheave includes an engagement surface, and wherein the engagement surface of the tension member is contoured to complement the engagement surface of the sheave.

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17. (original) A tension member according to claim 14 wherein said engagement surface is shaped by an outer contour of said plurality of cords.

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18. (original) A tension member according to claim 3, wherein the coating layer is formed from an elastomer.

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19. (original) A tension member according to claim 14, wherein said engagement surface is contoured to complement an engagement surface of a sheave.

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20. (original) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said coating layer is an elastomer.

21. (original) A tension member according to claim 20 wherein said elastomer is a thermoplastic urethane.

22. (original) A tension member according to claim 21 wherein said urethane is transparent.

23. (previously presented) A tension member according to claim 1 wherein said cords are steel.

Claims 24-44 (canceled).

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<sup>3</sup>/~~3~~  
45. (original) A tension member according to claim 2 wherein said several wires and said center wire is seven wires.

<sup>6</sup>/~~6~~ 46. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>4</sup>/~~3~~ wherein said several wires is six wires.

<sup>8</sup>/~~8~~ 47. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>1</sup>/~~5~~ wherein said plurality of cords each comprise seven strands.

<sup>14</sup>/~~14~~ 48. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>9</sup>/~~6~~ wherein said cord pattern is six strands twisted around said center strand.

<sup>15</sup>/~~15~~ 49. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>14</sup>/~~48~~ wherein said center wire of each strand is larger than all wires twisted therearound.

<sup>16</sup>/~~16~~ 50. (original) A tension member according to claim <sup>14</sup>/~~48~~ wherein said center wire of said center strand is larger than said center wire of each of said six strands.

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